



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR GINA M. RAIMONDO

July 14, 2020

The Honorable Marvin Abney
Chair, House Committee on Finance
Room 35, Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: 2020-H 7523 Proposed Substitute A/3 – Enabling the State Lottery Division of the Department of Revenue to Contract with IGT Global Solutions Corporation and Twin River

Dear Chairman Abney:

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 7523 Proposed Substitute A/3, An Act Enabling the State Lottery Division of the Department of Revenue to Contract with IGT Global Solutions Corporation and Twin River. In 2003, Rhode Island made the smart, bold decision of choosing a local company, GTECH, to run our state's lottery program. In the intervening seventeen years, that company has proved itself to be a strong partner that has helped to grow Rhode Island's third-largest revenue source as it expanded internationally and became IGT. Even during that growth, IGT maintained a significant presence in our state, employing 1,000 workers, a corporate headquarters in downtown Providence, and investing more than \$100 million in Rhode Island. Now, as that contract reaches its end and both the State and IGT must consider their next twenty years of growth, I am asking that we once again partner with our neighbors in Providence to keep high-paying jobs in Rhode Island and to ensure the stability of a significant portion of our revenue during a deeply uncertain time.

This proposed legislation authorizes an extension of both IGT and Twin River's contracts, securing our third largest revenue source for the next twenty years. The proposal before you will yield unprecedented economic benefits for the state, including hundreds of millions of dollars of capital investment in Rhode Island--including expansion of the Lincoln facility--and a \$25 million cash payment to the state. Most importantly, this proposal includes an ironclad commitment that IGT's jobs and headquarters will stay in Rhode Island for the entire term of the contract and that IGT will increase their annual employment to 1,100. This is an opportunity to not only protect the livelihood of the hundreds of Rhode Islanders who are employed by IGT and Twin River, but to extend that opportunity to others. Rhode Islanders deserve the chance to get a good-paying job in a growing industry with local companies. As COVID-19 disrupts our economy, it is imperative that we keep these jobs here in Rhode Island.

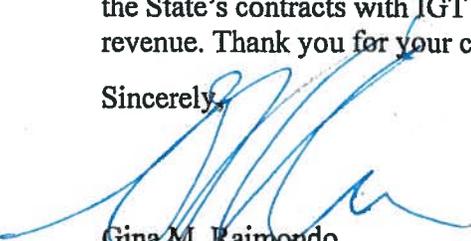
Chairman Abney

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I respectfully ask for your support of this legislation authorizing Rhode Island Lottery to extend the State's contracts with IGT and Twin River and to protect Rhode Island's workers and revenue. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Gina M. Raimondo
Governor

CC: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance
The Honorable Nicholas Mattiello
Danica A. Iacoi, Esq.